TO THE EDITOR OF THE SYDNEY GAZETTE, SIR,

The Editor of the Australasian Quarterly Journal, in his review of the specimen of a Dialect of the Aborigines of New South Wales, Art. 2, has alluded to the circumstances of the mission, in terms which render it necessary to explain. The London Missionary Society is perfectly ignorant of my unpleasant situation. The Directors, as a body, are uninformed of it; yet they have given me assurance that I must not leave this Colony, or the South Sea Islands, without their leave. The Committee returned me a bill of £400, directing me to sell the mission property and take it up; but, to provide for my personal safety, in the case of the property when sold, not covering the amount, they request the Rev. Mr. Marsden to sign with me fresh bills, which I have not the means to pay. The consequence is, law process against me to compel the Committee at home to send out the money. The Committee prohibits my drawing for any more than £250 per year for the support of myself, wife, and family of six children, and forbids me to go without the aid of the mission. Beyond that sum for the Aborigines, I am desired to abandon the Mission and return to the South Sea Islands.

I had ascertained that Mr. Marsden would not sign with me fresh bills before I left Lake Macquarie. I had information that Government could not assist. I had notice of the returned bills from the treasurer; and I am told that the next year's expense would be nearly £300. The consequence is, I am in the position of being in the scene of labour, surrounded as I was with such overwhelming difficulties, and taking up my abode in Sydney, where my presence is required for many reasons, and wait until the Directors and Society are acquainted in my mind with my circumstances, and apply a remedy.

There are a few persons here who have intimated that they would subscribe annually for the benefits of the Aborigines, rather than the Mission be totally abandoned. But I fear that the Editor has, unintentionally, by his allusions to dissent, prejudiced the case, which is evident in his wishes to support the causes of the Church, to teach, to embrace the Gospel, and without the aid of Government, independent of any human system, to meet the spiritual and moral wants of the Aborigines, as they are. It is a principle that is both of the Church of England, and of the Church of God, with all the fundamental principles of our Society, which consist of Christians of all denominations.

I take this opportunity of contradicting the report that I have refused pecuniary aid from Government; to say the least, it is a gross misrepresentation.

Any suggestions tending to the benefit of the Aborigines will meet with prompt attention, if addressed to my residence, No. 36, Hunter-street, Sydney.

L. E.

Jan. 14, 1829.